

(b) Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 6, 7 and 9 and add new claims 11-13 as follows. A detailed listing of all the claims that were or are pending is hereafter provided.

1. (Currently Amended) A micelle-containing composition comprising at least a micelle of an amphipathic block polymer, a polymer precursor and a dispersion medium therefor, wherein the micelle contains, as a functional material therein, an inorganic oxide having a particle size of 200 nm or less and a refractive index from 1.63 to 2.7 and wherein the amphipathic block polymer is present in amounts from 0.5 to 60% by weight, and the functional material is present in amounts from 0.5 to 80% by weight, said weights based on the total weight of the micelle-containing composition.

2. (Original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said micelle is a reverse micelle.

3. (Original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the functional material is an inorganic oxide.

4. (Original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the polymer precursor is a substance curable with light or heat.

5. (Original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the block polymer comprises three or more block segments.

6. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the block polymer is a [[high]] polymer having a repeating unit structure of polyvinyl ether.

7. (Currently Amended) A thin film being a cured product of a micelle-containing composition, wherein the composition comprises at least a micelle of an amphipathic block polymer, a polymer precursor and a dispersion medium therefor, and the micelle contains, as a functional material, an inorganic oxide having a particle size of 200 nm or less and a refractive index from 1.63 to 2.7 and wherein the amphipathic block polymer is present in amounts from 0.5 to 60% by weight, and the functional material is present in amounts from 0.5 to 80% by weight, said weights based on the total weight of the micelle-containing composition.

8. (Original) The thin film according to claim 7, wherein the thin film is formed on a substance.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a thin film, the method comprising the steps of:

forming on a substrate of a composition; and
curing the composition layer,
wherein the composition comprises at least a micelle of an amphipathic block polymer and a polymer precursor in a dispersion medium thereof, and said micelle contains, as a functional material, an inorganic oxide having a particle size of

200 nm or less and a refractive index from 1.63 to 2.7 and wherein the amphipathic block polymer is present in amounts from 0.5 to 60% by weight, and the functional material is present in amounts from 0.5 to 80% by weight, said weights based on the total weight of the micelle-containing composition.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein the curing step is carried out using heat and light.

11. (New) The micelle-containing composition of claim 1 wherein the inorganic oxide is ZnO, TiO₂, CeO₂, Sb₂O₅, ITO, Y₂O₃, La₂O₃, ZrO₂ or Al₂O₃.

12. (New) The thin film of claim 7, wherein the inorganic oxide is ZnO, TiO₂, CeO₂, Sb₂O₅, ITO, Y₂O₃, La₂O₃, ZrO₂ or Al₂O₃.

13. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the inorganic oxide is ZnO, TiO₂, CeO₂, Sb₂O₅, ITO, Y₂O₃, La₂O₃, ZrO₂ or Al₂O₃.